

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4327

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

Kruger's Restaurant

historic

Photography Unlimited (#21) and One-Stop Food Stores (#23)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 21-23 N. Howard Street

 not for publication

city, town Baltimore

 vicinity of

congressional district Seventh

state Maryland

county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category

 district
☒ building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

 public
☒ private
 both
Public Acquisition
 in process
 being considered
☒ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress
Accessible
☒ yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

 agriculture
☒ commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military
 museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Howard Street Partnership

street & number 1222A Boucher Street

telephone no.:

city, town Annapolis

MD 21403
state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse

liber

street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610

folio

city, town Baltimore

MD

state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

 federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

105

7. Description

Survey No. B-4327

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1915 Mediterranean Revival style restaurant faces west on N. Howard Street and abuts two partywall structures. Although the first story of this three-story, two bay building has been extensively altered into a food mart, the upper stories and interior retain the Mediterranean details such as red tiled roof, painted tiles, and mosaic wall surfaces. The street frontage is 27' and the depth is 66'.

The first story has been remodelled into an enframed window wall design with polished granite revetments bordering the glazed doors and windows. To the north is an angled, recessed entryway with glass double doors and transom linked to the first-story unit #21. To the north of this entryway is a small display window in the "jambs" of the recessed entry. To the south of this entryway of a plate glass display window that angles out to the plane of the sidewalk. The entryway and flooring under the display window is tiled and elevated upon a stone sill. To the south of the enframed window wall is a single glazed door that leads to the stair hall serving the upper stories at #21. The wall surface around the doors and windows are covered with brown metal sheets. A roll-down theft guard is suspended over #23. An awning stretches across the facade. Sheet metal panels rise above the awning, and are enframed on the sides and top by additional polished granite revetments.

The second story is relatively unaltered. Four stone Corinthian pilasters divide the facade into three bays. The windows in the first and second bays are paired metal casements with double transoms. The window in the second bay has retained its embellished transom bar. The third bay has a replacement pair of casements that are shorter than the original pair; there is a transom above and below these casements. Stone spandrels are recessed above the transoms.

The pilasters support a plain entablature whose profile follows the breaking forward of the pilasters and recessing of the spandrels. Above this entablature is an ornate decorative band. The band consists of a flat entablature that has shields set in recessed fields that are positioned over the pilasters. Between the shields in each of the three bays are bands of seven blue and yellow glazed tiles. The seven tiles have the following patterns: 1) four leaves, 2) a fleur-de-lis, 3) a cross within a diamond, 4) four leaves, 5) a cross within a diamond, 6) a fleur-de-lis, and 7) four leaves. A row of stone egg and dart molding runs along the top of the band.

A continuous stone sill projects out from the windows. The

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4327

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1915 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support. The architectural design of the Mediterranean Revival building

is unique among buildings in the commercial district. The exterior of this two-story building has painted tiles and red terra cotta roofing and the interior of the first story is covered with elaborately-designed mosaic walls. The only other example of a commercial Mediterranean Revival building in the district is a storefront further up N. Howard Street.

The interior design is also notable as a rare example of a restaurant interior, and for the fact that it is one of the few buildings in the commercial district whose interior has not been completely obliterated by remodelling.

In the circa 1940s remodelled first-story storefront, the use of traditional materials such as brick, plate glass, and structural steel framing were combined in new ways to create the popular angled glass window wall slanting towards a recessed entrance.

The two-story height of this restaurant/office space reveals the changing commercial nature of the unit block of N. Howard Street. Unlike the nineteenth century, when the neighborhood was used for combination commercial/light manufacturing businesses, during the twentieth century the manufacturing component moved elsewhere. Nor were any new functions, such as corporate or business offices, moving into the neighborhood. As a result, the two-story design of the building adequately fulfilled the limited commercial needs of the occupants. The construction of a restaurant indicates that the neighborhood in the 1920s had enough draw to attract an evening crowd, perhaps due to the theaters on N. Howard, Eutaw and Fayette streets. The restaurant allegedly closed after World War II.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4327

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture (Washington, DC: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Diane Shaw		
organization	C.H.A.P., Room 1037	date	August 12, 1991
street & number	417 E. Fayette Street	telephone	(301) 396-4866
city or town	Baltimore	state	MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600

B-4327
21-23 N. Howard Street
Baltimore, MD
Section 7 Description
7.1

A continuous stone sill projects out from the windows. The shelf is supported by a pair of brackets on axis with each pilaster above. The brackets are embellished by three rosettes a piece and by are enriched by a continuous molding of egg and dart molding that follows the forward break of the brackets and the recess of the wall surface. An entablature runs between the brackets and out to the edges of the wall. The stone frieze consists of a cornice of fillets, back band, and egg and dart molding above a frieze with alternating fleurs-de-lis and shells set in relief. The red-tiled, gable roof runs parallel to the street. The false projecting eaves are faced with copper and have a copper soffit with a pressed design. Pairs of chimneys are positioned in the flanking walls. From the south, the chimney stacks are visually tied together with stone facing.

The first floor interior of #23 is covered with period mosaics in excellent condition. The room is a large open space with approximately 15' ceilings. Wall boarding has been applied to the north, east, and south wall, but only to the first seven feet of the wall surface, leaving the mosaics on the walls and floor exposed. The west (facade) wall has been completely altered by the subsequent remodelling into a glazed wall.

The north wall is divided into five bays, with raised pilasters dividing the units. The pilasters are created out of molded, bullnose tile with a border of blue and white mosaics outlining a panel of off white larger tile squares. The base of the pilasters have a blue shield with a gold "K" embossed for Kruge's Restaurant. A band of fluted tan tiles runs between the base of the pilasters (or the band can also be interpreted as an entablature running over the decorative details of the now-wallboarded lower section of the wall). In the middle of each fluted band is a floral rondel of molded tile.

The exposed upper wall of each bay is entirely covered with buff-colored mosaics. The second, third, and fourth bays have special details. The buff mosaic fields have a green mosaic arch worked into the design. The arch is outlined in tan and buff mosaics. Above the arch is a row of blue and yellow tile rosettes. The arch of the second and fourth bays is bisected by two vertical bands of green tile. The spandrels between the arches and the pilasters are decorated with blue shields with red fleur-de-lis. The arch in the third bay is filled with a round picture scene. The mosaic rondel depicts Venice, with a gondola in the canal and San Marco and the Campanile in the background. The spandrels are decorated with blue urns with red strips.

B-4327

21-23 N. Howard Street
Baltimore, MD
Section 7 Description
7.2

The back (east) wall has three bays. The first and third bays have 12-light windows. The bottom three lights of the first window now have ventilators. The wall surface is covered in buff mosaics. The windows have molded tile surrounds. The lintel is a back band topped with scrolls flanking a medallion with a blue fleur-de-lis. The sills are in a lyre silhouette. The middle bay is a three-sided bowed bay. The angled sides of the bow contain 20-light windows of mirror glass. The middle section of the bow is wall boarded. The fluted entablature runs across the bottom of the visible wall.

The five-bay south wall is similar to the north wall. The second and fourth bays have the bisected green mosaic arches; a now-broken marble clock is centered in the arch of the fourth bay. The rondel in the third bay contains a landscape scene of fountain in the foreground, country villa in the midground, and a smoking volcano in the background. The fourth and fifth bays extend into the room; the jut is the non-communicating staircase of #21 that leads to the upper stories. There is a cove projection that spans the void between the top of the story and the bottom of the jutting stair landing. The soffit of this cove is also tiled in buff and green mosaics.

The floor is laid in a diapered pattern of white fields with green and buff outlines.

The ceiling is covered with acoustical tile.

The interior of the second story (#21) has been much altered. The walls are covered with wall board and the room partitions are later additions.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

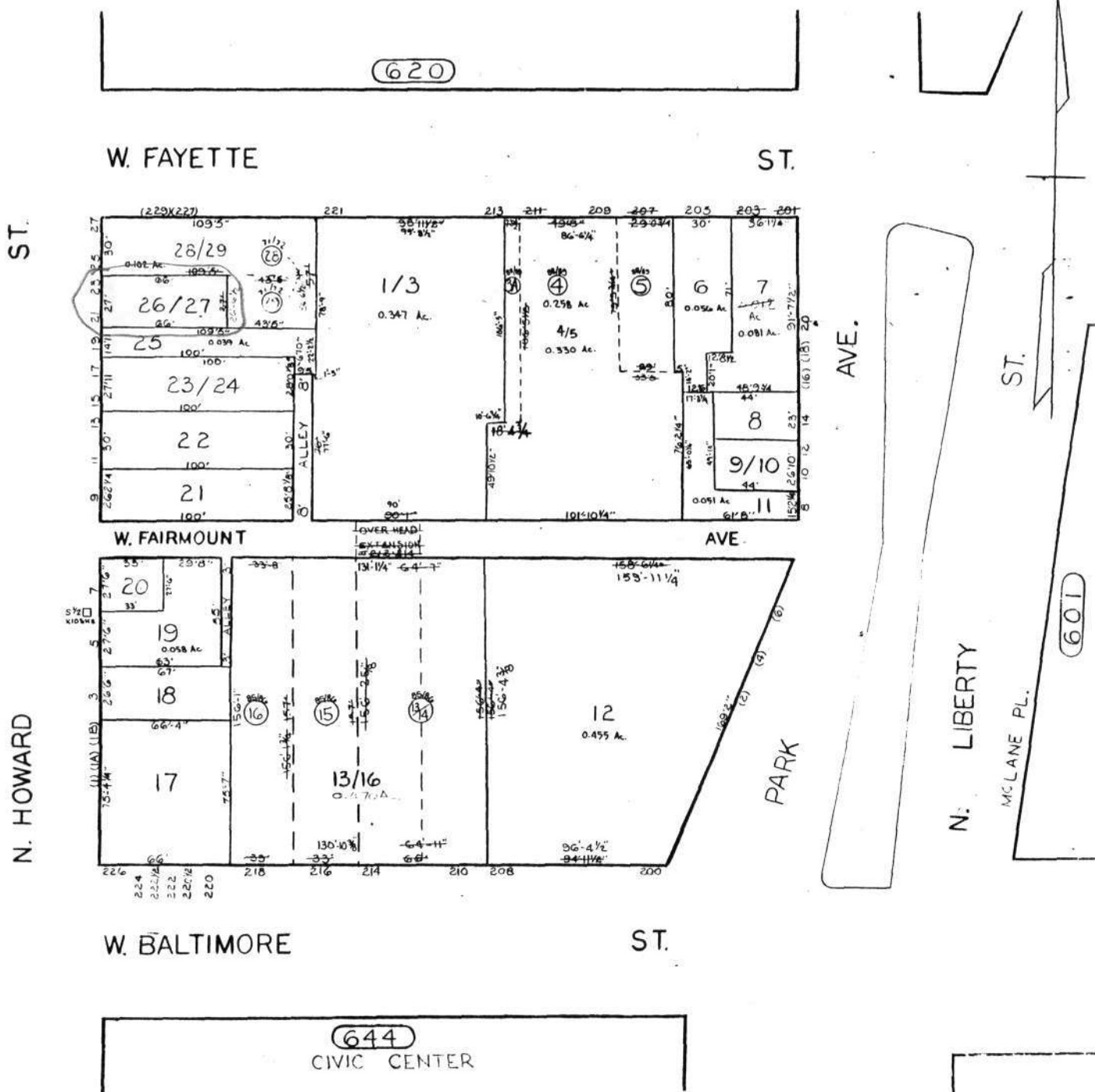
Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
Restaurant

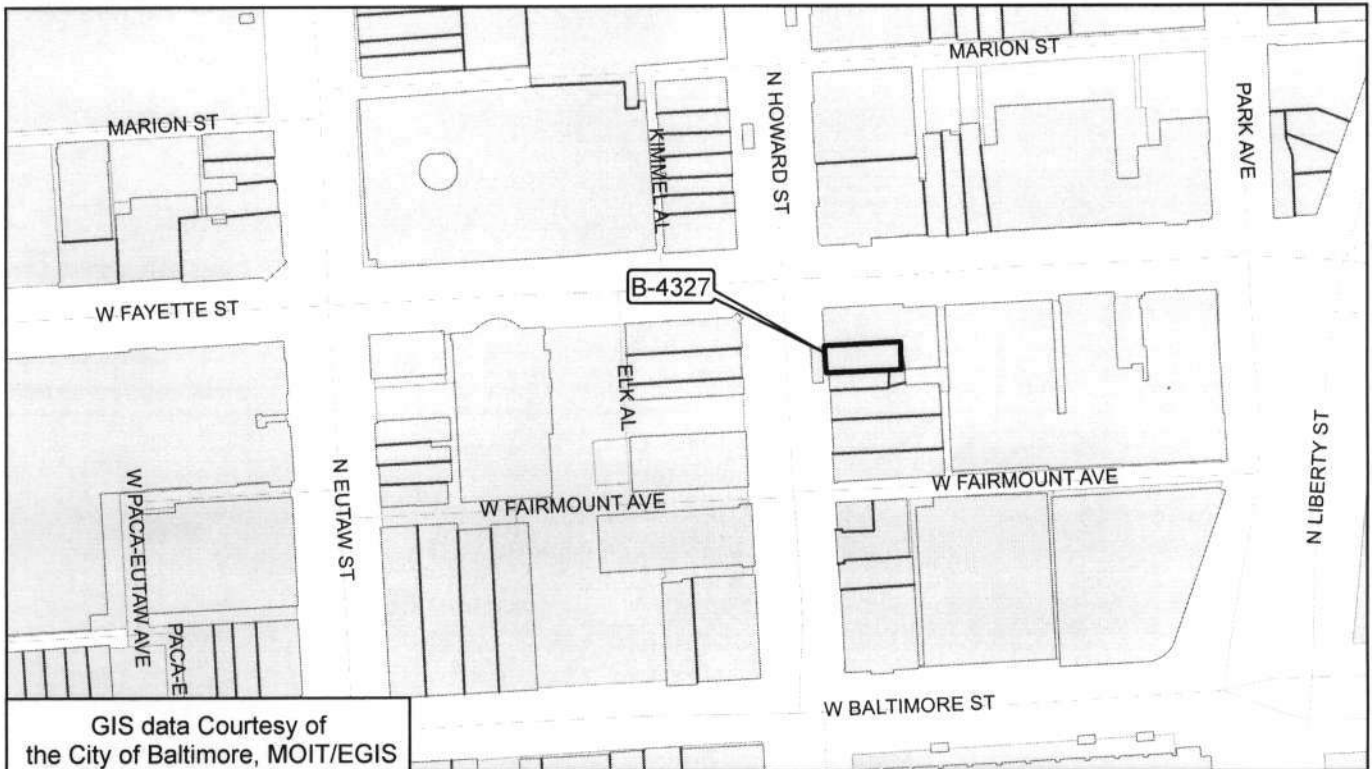
Known Design Source:
None

REVISIONS

LOT 28/29 PER P.L.S.; C.S.H. 409
 LOT 7 AN'M CHANGED PER LETTER C.S.H. 84-052
 LOTS 1/3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 19, 25 & 28/29 AN'M CHANGED PER PLS C.S.H. 85-219
 LOTS 13/14, 15 & 16 DIM CORR PER DEED, C.S.H. 85-487
 LOTS 13/14, 15 & 16 CONS'D PER APP. C.S.H. 86-253
 LOT 3A, 4 & 5 CONS'D PER O.O. & App. C.S.H. 85-467



B-4327
Kruger's Restaurant
21-23 N. Howard Street
Block 0633, Lot 026
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4327

21-23 N Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPD

Exterior, SW Elevation

1/3

107



B-4327

21-23 N Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

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Maryland SHPO

Facade detail, 2nd story

2/3

108



B-4327

21-23 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

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Maryland SHPO

Interior detail, north wall

3/3



B-4327

21-23 N Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Drane Shaw

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Maryland Historical Trust

Interior, east wall

1/3



B-4327

21-23 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Drane Shaw

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Maryland Historical Trust

Interior, south wall

2/3



B-4327

21-23 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland Historical Trust

Interior, south wall

3/3